



Sunday 19 October 2025, 10am

The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Eucharist



Can These Bones Live?

Presider
Revd Dr Sam Wells

Preacher
Dr Naomi Lawson Jacobs

BSL Interpreters
Wendy Everingham and
Shaunett Harris

Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by
Jennifer Sterling

Organist
Matthew Morrison

Setting
Kilcreggan Mass *Peter Nardone*
Kyrie from 'Sunrise Mass' *Ola Gjeilo*

⊕ Common Worship

Welcome

Our welcomers are available to assist with any of the following information. Toilets are available: please ask a welcomer.

Welcome whether you are joining us today in our building or online. Our cameras focus on those who are leading our service, but if you are in the building and would like to ensure that you are not caught on camera, please sit outside the pillars on the south of the church (to the right as you enter).

Welcome if you are disabled, unwell, have experiences of dementia, physical, sensory or mental health issues, or are neurodivergent. The order of service is online. Large print copies are also available. The hearing loop works best on the south side of the church. Step-free access to church is via the ramp on the north side, and to the Crypt and Hall via lifts in the NW porch and Pavilion.

Welcome to babies, children and young people. We understand that young children make noise. If your baby becomes upset during the service, you are welcome to go to the back of church if needed to settle — or to our children's church room. We support breastfeeding in services; we also have a room allocated if preferred. We have a children's church group during the service. A youth group for teenagers meets monthly on Sunday afternoons.

Welcome to anyone in need of safeguarding. If you would like to reach our safeguarding team, you can email safeguarding@smitf.org.

Welcome to all heritages and experiences of race, culture and language. At the Lord's Prayer, all are invited to bring the gift of our preferred language to our worship. Our 1.30pm is in Cantonese: our welcomers are happy to help where they can if you are new to English. You are also very welcome if you are LGBTQIA+.

Welcome if you are of no professed faith or are from a faith tradition other than Christianity. Welcome if you are wary of faith. **Welcome** if you're exploring. **Welcome** if you are here to support someone else. If you would like to explore what you believe in a friendly and non-judgemental group, our Being With courses run throughout the year online and in the building. Email beingwith@smitf.org for more details.

You are welcome to share our meal with God. When we come to Holy Communion, we receive bread in the form of a wafer, then wine from a common cup. Non-alcoholic wine and gluten-free wafers are available in the south aisle. If you need to receive in your seat, please let a welcomer know and ministers will come to you. If you do not want to or cannot receive bread or wine for whatever reason you are welcome to let the priest know you would like to receive a simple prayer for blessing, or to stay in your seat. We welcome your ideas and help for us to become a more welcoming community.

We are glad you are here.

The Gathering

Welcome

Poem *written and read by Susan Marina Wolfe*

The Greeting

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

We acknowledge God's presence drawing each of us into one body as we gather on site and online.

Visit us Lord, by your Holy Spirit.

All **Though in many places, we are united as one body.
Though from many backgrounds, we share one hope.**

Opening Hymn

- 1 **I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast':
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad,
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.**
- 2 **I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live':
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.**

continued...

**3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright':
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk,
till travelling days are done.**

Horatius N. Bonar (1808-1889)

Please sit or kneel.

Confession

Let us confess our sins to God, who sees us in the wilderness and longs to breathe life into us once more.

Silence is kept.

You put breath in us and give us life, but we turn away from you and squander your gifts.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord have mercy.

The Choir sings Kyrie eleison.

You love us without end and desire us to show love, but we have no fear of you and fail to love our neighbour.

Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

The Choir sings Christe elesion.

You invite us to pray always and not lose heart, but we choose to lie in the valley of despair and lose our hope.

All Lord, have mercy.

The Choir sings Kyrie eleison.

May the God of life, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Please stand.

Children gather during the Gloria at the north east door to go to Children's Church.

Gloria in excelsis

Glo - ry to God, to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on

4
earth. Lord God, heav - en-ly King al - migh - ty God and

8
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

11
praise you for your glo - ry, we wor - ship you, we

14
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

18
Glo - ry to God, to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

22
Glo - ry to God, to god in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

26
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

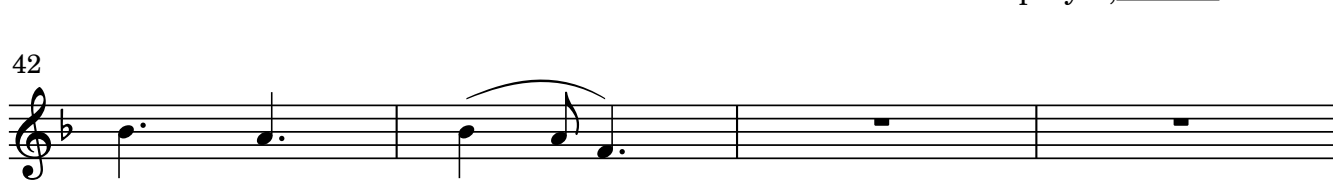
30
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have

34

 mer - cy on us, you are sea - ted at the right hand of the

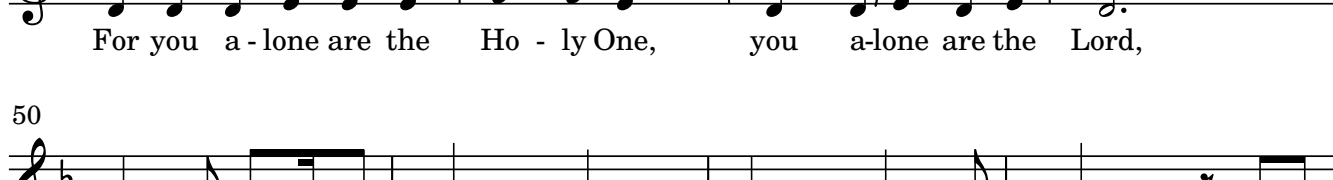
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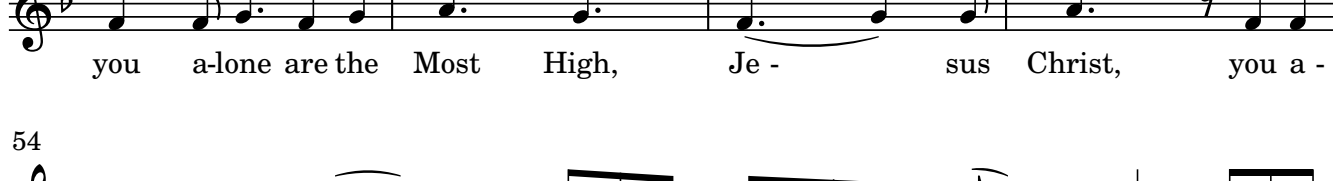
 Fa - ther: re - cieve our prayer, re -

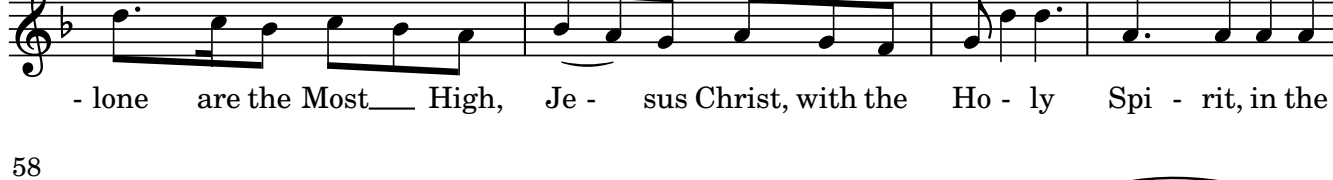
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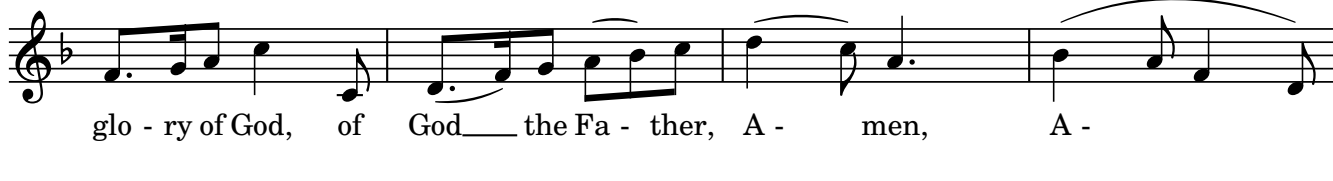
46

 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

50

 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, you a -

54

 - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the

58

 glo - ry of God, of God the Fa - ther, A - men, A -

62

 men

Collect

Grant, we beseech you, merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All Amen.

Please sit.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14 *read by a member of the
Disability Advisory Group*

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.'

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

Hear the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121 *sung by the Choir*

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills : from whence cometh my help. My help cometh even from the Lord: who hath made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: and he that keepeth thee will not sleep. Behold, he that keepeth Israel: shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord himself is thy keeper: the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand; so that the sun shall not burn thee by day: neither the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in: from this time forth for evermore.

Please stand and turn to face the Gospel in the centre aisle.

Gospel Hymn

- 1 **Breathe on me, Breath of God
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.**
- 2 **Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure;
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.**

continued after Gospel reading

Gospel Reading Luke 18: 1-8

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "Grant me justice against my opponent." For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming." ' And the Lord said, 'Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn *continued*

- 3 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine;
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.**
- 4 Breathe on me, Breath of God:
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.**

Edwin Hatch (1835-89)

Please sit after the opening prayer.

Sermon Dr Naomi Lawson Jacobs

Anthem Give me justice *James MacMillan*

Give me justice, O God, and defend my cause against the wicked; rescue me from deceitful and unjust men. You, O God, are my refuge. Emite lucem tuam, et veritatem tuam; ipsa me deduxerunt, et adduxerunt in montem sanctum tuum, et in tabernacula tua. Gloria Patri et filio, et Spiritui Sancto; sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saeculorum. Amen. *O send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. Glory be to the father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

Psalms 42 (43)

Please stand.

Apostles' Creed

- All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Please sit or kneel.

Prayers of Intercession *led by members of the Disability Advisory Group*

The response to the prayers is:

God of wonder and love,

All **hear our prayer.**

And, at the end:

Merciful Father,

All **accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Please stand.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

*During the following hymn a collection will be taken for the ministry and work of St Martin-in-the-Fields. You are welcome to donate by **scanning the QR code, cash in the collection bags** (filling in a Gift Aid envelope if applicable), or by **card machine** (please see Jeff Claxton to register your payment card for Gift Aid).*



Offertory Hymn

- 1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief and pain;
leave to your God to order and provide;
in every change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**
- 2 Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
to guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake,
all now mysterious shall be clear at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
his voice, who ruled them while he dwelt below.**
- 3 Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart
and all is darkened in the vale of tears,
then you shall better know his love, his heart,
who comes to soothe your sorrow, calm your fears.
Be still, my soul: for Jesus can repay
from his own fullness all he takes away.**

A musical interlude may be played on the organ before the final verse is sung

- 4 Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall be for ever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief and fear are gone,
sorrow forgotten, love's pure joy restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

*Stille meine Wille; dein Jesus hilft siegen Katherina Amalia Dorothea von Schlegel (b. 1697-
after 1768) tr. Jane Laurie Borthwick (1813–1897)*

Preparation of the Table Taking of the Bread and Wine

The table is prepared and bread and wine are received from the congregation and placed upon it. The financial gifts of the people are gathered and presented with the following prayer:

You breathe into us the gift of life. Use us in the renewing of your world, that your Spirit may bring new life and hope.

All Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Revealing Father, you brought your Spirit from the four winds to visit your people in the valley of the dry bones. You promised to open their graves and bring them back from exile. Through your Spirit you breathed life into your son Jesus when through crucifixion his body was reduced to dry bones. So we join a vast multitude, uniting in your company, who do not slumber but praise you night and day for evermore.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

5 Lord _____ God _____ of hosts. _____

9 Hea - ven and earth _____ are full _____ of your glo - ry, ho -

13 - sa - na in _____ the high - est.

17 Bles sed is he _____ that comes _____ in the name _____ who

21 comes _____ in the name _____ of the Lord. _____ Ho -

25 - san - na in _____ the high - est, ho -

29 - san - na in _____ the high - est.

Resurrecting Son, you sent your Spirit on dry bones that they might live. Now send that same Spirit on your church gathered here that it may be transfigured by your grace, and on this bread and wine that they may become for us your body and blood. For you, at supper with your disciples, took bread, gave thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, 'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' After supper you took the cup. Again you gave thanks, and gave it to your disciples, saying, 'Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Restoring Spirit, as you breathed into your people and into Jesus, do not delay in bringing true justice to your children who are worn out, broken, very dry, and asking if their bones can live. Inspire your church not to lose heart, that the sinews of fellowship may be tight enough for kindness but loose enough for mutual understanding. Keep us from all evil and uphold our life in you, until the day the valley of earth becomes the mountain of your glory and you are all in all, Father Son and Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Please sit or kneel.

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray, each in our own preferred language.

All **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread as Christ's bones were broken to give us life.

All Though we are a vast multitude, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei



5



9



Giving of Communion

Come, you dry and weary bones, for the Lord calls us to the table of life.

All Lord, all things come from you. We come lifeless, longing for your Spirit. Breathe new life into us.

Communicant members of all Christian churches are invited to receive Holy Communion. Bread and wine are available in the central aisle and both side aisles. Gluten-free bread and non-alcoholic wine are available in the south aisle upon request from the assistant. If you wish to receive communion in your seat, do let a steward know.

Communion Anthem Come Down, O Love Divine *Vaughan Williams arr. Will Todd*

Come down, O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine, and visit it with thine own ardour glowing; O comforter, draw near, within my heart appear, and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing. O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn to dust and ashes, in its heat consuming; and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illuming. Let holy charity mine outward vesture be, and

lowliness become mine inner clothing; true lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part, and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing. And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long, shall far outpass the power of human telling; for none can guess its grace, till he become the place wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Discendi, amor santo Bianco da Siena (d. 1434) tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890)

Silence is kept.

Prayer after Communion

In this sacrament you have breathed your Spirit into our dry and weary places. Raise us up to share your hope and send us out to proclaim that nothing can withstand your breath of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Notices

Please stand.

Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God's Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Thanksgiving Hymn

- 1 Holy Spirit, living Breath of God,
breathe new life into my willing soul.
Bring the presence of the risen Lord
to renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause your word to come alive in me;
give me faith for what I cannot see;
give me passion for your purity;
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.**

continued...

- 2 Holy Spirit, come abide within,
may your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin
in each thought and deed and attitude:
kindness to the greatest and the least,
gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my strivings into works of grace;
Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.**
- 3 Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,
giving life to all that God has made,
show your power once again on earth,
cause your church to hunger for your ways.
May the fragrance of our prayers arise;
lead us on the road of sacrifice,
that in unity the face of Christ
may be clear for all the world to see.**

Keith Getty (b. 1974) and Stuart Townend (b. 1963)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Blessing Anthem Peace I leave with you *Beach*

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you. Not as the world giveth give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled.

Unknown

Organ Voluntary

Prayers for healing are available at the altar rail after the service.

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Parts of this liturgy have been written specially for this service by members of St Martin's Disability Advisory Group, under the guidance of Sam Wells.

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